



Atty Docket No.: SHO-0042  
(PATENT)

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Kazuo OKADA

Application No.: 10/697,081

Filed: October 31, 2003

For: GAMING MACHINE

Confirmation No.: 9728

Art Unit: 3714

Examiner: E. M. Thomas

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
- ☒ excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication which is not required by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(ii).

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to

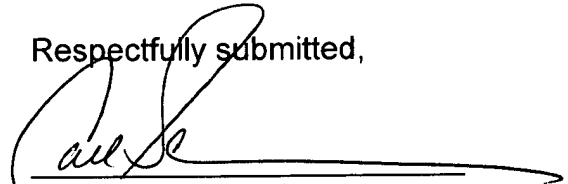
patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the Issue Fee (37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. The Patent Office is authorized to charge deposit account **18-0013** in the amount of **\$180.00** under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p) in view of the statement below.
- ☐ a. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ b. No item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2). The Certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) is attached hereto.

- ☒ 2. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 18-0013** as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Date: December 22, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

  
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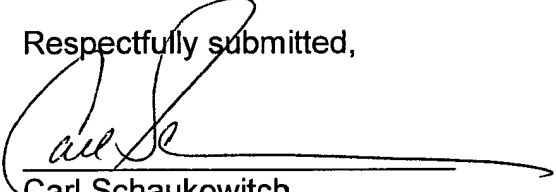
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